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Edwardsville Bulletin

To the Faculty and Staff of Southern Illinois University

Edward Bulletin

Vol. 7, No. 4
December 13, 1974

Although I would not for a moment ask that you think of conditions at this institution, particularly from the economic point of view, as ideal or even satisfactory, this is a time of year when I would hope we could all look to larger perspectives. There are many, many families in the area we serve who will be suffering very bleak holiday seasons. It is one of the strengths of an institution like this that we share a common dedication to civility and generosity of spirit. If we could turn our hearts and our resources to enriching the holiday joy of our less fortunate neighbors, I think we would be asserting that strength in one of the finest ways imaginable. In doing so, we might find ourselves surprisingly enriched.

To all of the University community I want to express my personal gratitude for the dedication and enhancement all of you have brought to our common endeavor during the past year. Let me leave you with a prose poem by one of the best writers to grace the community we serve. This is from Charles Guenther's prose poem Silences:

...Flowers breathe colors. (We have already plucked the lilac of the tempest.) Sleep joyfully to the sound of the sun on your blue island of other silences. There is no festival but here.

John S. Rendleman

John S. Rendleman
President